

Eastern Express

March/April 2011

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System—SSN 1064-3486

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Eastern Library System
 11929 Elm Street, Suite 18
 Omaha, NE 68144
 402-330-7884
 800-627-7884
 Fax 402-330-1859
www.elsne.org
 Staff
 Kathleen Tooker,
 Executive Director
ktookер@windstream.net
 Nancy Meyer, Administrative
 Assistant

Robin Bernstein
 Scott Berryman
 Gail Formanack
 Lowen Kruse
 Mary Jo Mack
 Joyce Neujahr
 David Privitt
 Marie Reidelbach
 Gayle Roberts
 Rosa Schmidt
 John Seyfarth
 Jan Therien

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From the Executive Director

Kathy

Would You Want to Go Back to Reading from a Scroll?

When I was on vacation in January, it became evident a good percentage of my fellow travelers were reading. While this was not unexpected in an airport, what surprised me that there were as many if not more reading not a print copy of a book, but an e-book. By the time I got home, I was wishing I had an e-reader so I didn't have to lug the books I had taken.

Library Journal (LJ, March 1, 2011) recently published in their Stat Watch the there were 3.6 million worldwide e-readers sales in 2009, by 2010 the number was 6.6 million, a +79.8 increase and that the projected number of sales for 2011 is 11 million.

With this in mind, the Nebraska Regional Library Systems wrote and received a Library Improvement Grant from the Nebraska Library Commission to purchase two e-readers for each system to lend to system member libraries. The purpose is to acquaint libraries with the technology. I have received many calls asking if a library should be buying e-readers so that the library could lend one to their customers. While the lending of e-readers is being done in some public libraries more academic and school libraries are letting students borrow one. I just read where one school district plans on giving each student an e-reader that is loaded with all their textbooks. Public libraries have been a little slower in lending e-readers. My advice right now is for those public libraries who have not subscribed to OverDrive, a shared consortium of e-books, to do so. OverDrive is available from NLC (see page 4 for more information on OverDrive.)

ELS now had a Barnes & Noble Color Nook and a Kindle 3G. After we learn how to use them here in the office, we will be

ready to loan them for a two-week period for libraries to try. Each will be loaded with several books and other materials. They are to be used by the library staff, not lent to the library customers. The advantage of the Color Nook is books can be downloaded free from Overdrive. The Kindle, an Amazon product, requires that you download books from Amazon. Downloading takes only a few seconds. However, both will let you lend/borrow a book for a period of time from another user of the same device. The technology I really wish each device had was a direct connection to my brain as to how to use all their features!

Some of the sites to borrow/lend a book are:

- LendleMe <lendle.me (Kindle only)
- BookLending <www.booklending.com> (Kindle only)
- eBookFling <ebookfling.com> for every five books listed to loan out, users get one credit toward borrowing.

Some sites for free e-books are:

- Project Gutenberg <www.gutenberg.net> Over 33,000 titles that play on any reader platform.
- InkMesh <inkmesh.com> is a search engine that searches more than 30 online sources for free books by author or title.
- 300 Places for Free Books Online <www.techsupportalert.com/content/50-places-free-books-online.htm>

There are many other types of e-readers on the market all with different features and prices. One problem with book selection for e-readers is acquisition as some publishers won't sell their latest e-books to libraries. HarperCollins has announced that new titles licensed from library vendors will be able to circulate only 26 times before their license expires. Two other publishers, Macmillan and Simon & Shuster don't allow e-books to be circulated in libraries. **(continued on next page)**

It will be interesting to see how all this works out as e-books certainly are here to stay.

Sarah Houghton-Jan, Assistant Director for the San Rafael Public Library, CA, and a blogger— Librarian in Black Blog—has posted this:

The eBook User's Bill of Rights

Every eBook user should have the following rights:

- the right to use eBooks under guidelines that favor access over proprietary limitations
- the right to access eBooks on any technological platform, including the hardware and software the user chooses
- the right to annotate, quote passages, print, and share eBook content within the spirit of fair use and copyright
- the right of the first-sale doctrine extended to digital content, allowing the eBook owner the right to retain, archive, share, and re-sell purchased eBooks

For the complete bill of rights, go to <librarianinblack.net>.

Probably every librarian by now has been asked if there will still be print books around in XX years. I am one who loves being able to curl up with a print book . but, am eager to read on an e-reader too. One librarian who received a Kindle as a gift was not real thrilled with the idea of reading from a device ; she tells me she now prefers reading on her Kindle. I believe there is room for both; after all, we would not want to go back to reading from clay tablets or scrolls.

Regional Library System News

Terri Raburn has been appointed to fill the Panhandle Library Services Coordinator position. She will be on April 1st. Terri is currently the Director/Curator for the Nebraska United Methodist Archives located at Nebraska Wesleyan. She received her library science degree from Emporia State University. Terry previously worked as Supervisor of Reference Services at ESU, and was Assistant Curator of Reference Services at the Nebraska State Historical Society. She also worked at the Holdrege Public Library System.

We are grateful....

In the past, Eastern Library System has been the recipient of some monetary donations. This year we have experienced two more generous donations. The money is being used to support ELS programs and services. On behalf of the staff and board of directors....



Upcoming Events

March 18 - Microsoft Window 7 & Google Apps Workshop, Sump Memorial Library, Papillion

March 24 - Paraprofessional Section of NLA—2011 Spring Meeting.

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/comp/para/2011springmeeting/2011Paraspgconfwebsite.html>

March 26 - School Librarians' Day, 8:00—3:30, UNO (see page 12)

March 30 - Book Club/Book Mending Workshop, La Vista Public Library - (see page 13)

April 5-10 - Mountain Plains Library Association Conference in Billings Montana.

April 10-16 - National Library Week. The American Library Association website has some good ideas for celebrating.

<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/natlibraryweek/index.cfm>

April 14 - ELS Board Meeting, 9:30 am, Wahoo High School. (Note change of date)

April 30 - ELS Parking Lot Sale 8 am—4 pm (see page 14)



May 2-8 - Children's Book Week. Check out this site for some ideas.

<http://www.bookweekonline.com/>

May 5 & 6 - Branding Workshops—

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/system/meridian/Branding%20Your%20Library%20Flyer%205-2011.pdf>

May 6 - CLICK Meeting, 9:30 am, Sump Memorial Library, Papillion. Topic: Using volunteers in your library.

May 13 - DIRECT Meeting, 9:20 am, Bellevue Public Library

May 19 - Spring Colloquium, Lincoln (see page 15)

June 10 - ELS Annual Meeting at Midland University, Fremont. Plan to attend.

System News



Mead

The library has new shelving. Vera Kuhr, director, is busy moving, weeding and organizing the collection. The library is hosting an open house on March 19th from 1-3 pm to view their make over. There will be door prizes, food and good conversation. All are invited.

Valley

Frankie Kirkwood, director, anticipates a new public library location for Valley this fall.

Springfield

Nine students, ages 9-12, are involved with the Young Writer's Workshop at Springfield Memorial Library. This creative writing program meets weekly for six weeks in February and March. The young writers are allowed to choose their own topic, develop their story, and are guided on how to revise and edit their writing. The program ends with the students crafting a book for their finished product. The Springfield Friends organization gave the library a 47" wall mounted TV.

Bellevue

Lupe Mier, director of the Bellevue Public Library, reports that they are transitioning to the SirsiDynix Symphony system and should be up in April.

Ralston

Baright Public Library has been weeding the collection in anticipation of changing their automation system to Innovative Interfaces.

Beemer

A new automation system is being considered by the Karlen Memorial Library.

Gretna

The Gretna Public Library has run out of room to house its expanding collection and plans to move either the adult or children's collection to another building

Wahoo

The Wahoo Public Library is in the process of converting their lower level into space for children's events, as well as adult education classes. The library will be hosting an Open House the evening of April 3rd.

Bennington

The library is involved in the "Every Child Ready to Read" program. The library also will have three laptop computers for customer use in the library.

La Vista

Rose Barcal, La Vista Public Library director, attended a LEAD session (Leading, Educating and Developing) last November. She was sent there as the City of La Vista is turning to the High Performance Organization model.

Waterloo

The Agnes Robinson Waterloo Public Library received an AED Defibrillator donated by Angie Rittenhouse and her daughter Graci of Waterloo in memory of her husband Jack and son Garret on February 10th. February was Heart Healthy Month. Jack was a Waterloo Fire Fighter who died from cancer at age 37, and Garret died five years ago from an undetected heart condition, just a few days after his first birthday. The presence of the AED machines (automated external defibrillators) in public places greatly increases a person's chance of surviving an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. Staff at the Waterloo Public Library have been trained in using the AED and greatly appreciate the donation.



Dale Stork,
Waterloo Fire
and Rescue,
Linda Oyster,
Angie
Rittenhouse &
daughter Graci

Library Improvement Grants

- Bennington Public Library - Join Pioneer Consortium
- Omaha Public Library - Acquire Peek-A-Book Interactive Kiosk
- Sump Memorial Library, Papillion - Join Pioneer Consortium
- Valparaiso Public Library - Join Pioneer Consortium
- Nebraska Regional Library Systems - E-reader demonstration project

New System Members

- Omaha Christian Academy - located in northwest Omaha. Carolee Randall is the librarian for this K-12 school.
- Literacy Center for the Midlands - located in downtown Omaha. Beverly Todd is the librarian for the student library. The Literacy Center was founded in 1970 by a librarian who wanted to help adults improve their literacy skills.



21st Century Librarian Scholarships Now Available!

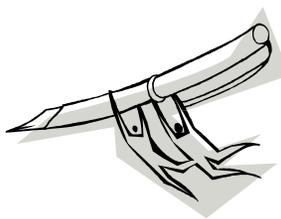
The Nebraska Library Commission is pleased to announce the launch of their library science scholarship program for Nebraska residents.

Go to:

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/NowHiring/Scholarships.asp> for details and to learn how to apply.

Questions? Contact Kathryn Brockmeier, Grant Program Manager, by e-mail

(kathryn.brockmeier@nebraska.gov), or by phone 402-471-4002 or 800-307-2665.



Author Visit

Michael Sullivan, author and expert on boys and reading, will speak on *Connecting Boys with Books & Breaking all the Rules*, in four locations across Nebraska in April.

April 1—Alliance

April 13—Lexington

April 15—Norfolk

April 21—Seward

Read Aloud Nebraska, NLA's Public Library and Trustee Section, and the Regional Library Systems are jointly presenting this program to give you the opportunity to hear Michael Sullivan "share practical, proven, and sometimes off-beat suggestions on how to turn boys into lifelong readers." This program offers 5 hours of CE credit.

You may register online at www.readaloudnebraska.org or by mailing the registration and fee to Read Aloud Nebraska, 233 South 5th Street, Seward, NE 68434.

eBooks through Nebraska OverDrive Libraries a Hit

Downloadable eBooks have been available through the Nebraska OverDrive Libraries Collection for just over six months. The collection started with 168 titles. Demand for eBooks was high from the beginning. Mary Jo Mack, John A. Stahl Library in West Point, and Karen Drevo, Norfolk Public Library, have done a great job of adding new titles and extra copies of popular titles; as of January 24th, the eBook collection consists of 968 titles and a total of 989 copies. All the popular fiction genres, a number of nonfiction subjects, and juvenile titles are represented. At least four or five purchase orders have been submitted each month. An extra large purchase on Christmas Eve helped meet demand from people who received eBook readers as gifts.

Demand remains high and a fair number of eBook titles have waiting lists. The same thing occurred when the group initially started with audio books; however, that collection has grown to the point where there are a large number of available titles from which people can choose. The collection budget is divided between audio books and eBooks, and must last through September. We try to spread this budget out somewhat evenly over the 12-month period so that we are constantly buying new content; we don't want to spend all our money in the first four months of the year, and then not be able to add new content in the subsequent eight months.

If staff or patrons from participating libraries have requests for specific titles, please pass them along for consideration to Mary Jo (adult fiction) wplibrary@cableone.net; Karen (juvenile, YA, and adult non-fiction) kdrevo@ci.norfolk.ne.us; or Susan Knisley at the Nebraska Library Commission (all topics) susan.knisely@nebraska.gov.

If your library is interested in joining the Nebraska OverDrive Libraries group, please go to <http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/netserv/pricing/overdrive.html> for more information.

"What Makes a Perfect Children's Section in the Library?"

This was the question that was asked at the last CLICK meeting and here are the results.

Tammy Henry, children's librarian assistant, Bellevue Public Library

(picture books)

- *Where's My Teddy?* by Jez Alborough
- *Good Night, Gorilla*, Peggy Rathmann
- *Mouse Paint*, by Ellen Stoll Walsh
- *Bunny Cakes*, by Rosemay Wells
- *One Snowy Night*, by Christina Butler
- *Silly Sally*, by Audrey Wood

(juvenile/YA books)

- *The Giver*, by Lois Lowry
- *Hatchet*, by Gary Paulsen
- *Frindle*, By Andrew Clements
- Harry Potter series, by J.K. Rowlings

Toni Reese, youth services librarian at Sump Memorial in Papillion

- *Bark George*, by Jules Feiffer
- *Chicken Cheeks*, by Michael Ian Black
- *Froggy Gets Dressed*, by Jonathan London
- *Hey, Little Ant*, by Phillip Hannah Hoose
- *I Was an Ant on the Railroad Track*, by David Clemesha
- *No, No, Jack*, by Ron Hirsch
- *The Perfect Nest*, by Catherine Friend
- *The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog!* by Mo Willems
- *Where to, Little Wombat?* by Charles Fuge
- *Whose Nose & Toes?* by John Butler

Alice Boeckman, youth services librarian, Bellevue Public Library

- Best concept book: *C is for Duck*, by Mary Elting and Michael Folsom
- Best wordless book: *Chalk*, by Bill Thomson
- Best bibliotherapy book: *City Dog, Country Frog*, by Mo Willems
- Best bedtime book: *Time for Bed*, by Mem Fox

- Best tall tale: *The Bunyans*, by Audrey Wood
- Best classic story: *Goodnight Moon*, by Margaret Wise Brown
- Best participation book: *Trashy Town*, by Andrea Zimmerman
- Best book for a flannel story: *The Jacket I Wear in the Snow*, by Shirley Neitzel
- Best book to sing: *I Ain't Gonna Paint No More*, by Karen Beaumont
- Best silly book: *Desert Rose and Her Highfalutin Hog*, by Alison Jackson

Deb Kois, children's librarian, Bennington Public Library

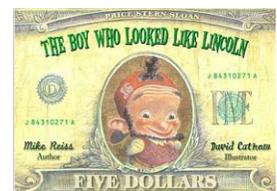
- *Pigsty*, by Mark Teague
- *Flotsam*, by David Wiesner
- *He Came with the Couch*, by David Slonim
- *Russell the Sheep*, by Rob Scotton
- *Cowboy & Octopus*, by Jon Scieszka
- *Bubble Gum, Bubble Gum*, by Lisa Wheeler
- *Fireman Small: fire down below*, by Hong Yee
- *One is a Feast for Mouse*, by Judy Cox
- *Fancy Nancy*, by Jane O'Connor
- Counting books by Michael Dahl

Sally Snyder, coordinator of youth services at the Nebraska Library Commission

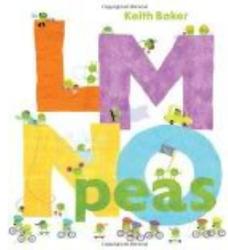
- *Big Chickens Go to Town*, by Leslie Helakoski
- *A Tale Dark & Grimm*, by Adam Gidwitz
- *A Long Walk to Water*, by Linda Sue Park
- *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda*, by Tom Angleberger
- *Amazing Monty*, by Johanna Hurwitz
- *Out of My Mind*, by Sharon Draper
- *A Wizard from the Start*, by Don Brown
- *Rapunzel's Revenge*, by Shannon and Dean Hale

And...from Julie Jorgensen, Waterloo Public Library

- *The Boy Who Looked Like Lincoln*, by Mike Reiss



Resources for Youth Services & School Librarians



Book Review from Cathy McMahon, Keene Mem- orial Library in Fremont

Ok Friends here it is!! LMNO
peas is one of the best alpha-
bet books I have ever read or

used in a story time. The reason, the only reason, I think we should all own a copy is because of what the author has the peas “doing” for each of the letters. Really original ideas, not your typical “a is for apple...” Most of the time alphabet books are bland and boring, but not this one, the letters of the alphabet are big bold and colorful! I love the dedication! “for pea-ple everywhere-young and old, large and small, green and round!” Look what the author uses for the letter R! Here are a few websites that loved the book as much as I did...

- <http://www.5minutesforbooks.com/7804/lmno-peas/>
- <http://www.tadpoletales.net/2010/06/review-lmno-peas-by-keith-baker.html>
- <http://curledupkids.com/lmnopeas.html>

This book is amazing –
Hope you enjoy it!
Cathy

Arbor Day

Arbor Day was started in Nebraska and will be celebrated in Nebraska on Friday, April 29, 2011. It is observed throughout the U.S., but each state selects its own day to encourage the planting of trees. Check out these sites for activities and crafts :

- www.peachtree-online.com/index.php/resources.teachers-guides.html
- www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/arbor-day
- www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/arborday
- www.arborday.org/explore/crafts

SLJ's Average Book Prices 2010

	2009	2010	2011*
<u>Children's Titles</u>			
Hardcover (all titles)	\$21.25	\$22.46	\$21.25
Trade paperback	\$11.50	\$11.65	\$11.26
Mass paperback	\$7.10	\$7.20	\$6.91

Young Adult Titles

Hardcover(all titles)	\$23.48	\$23.98	\$24.97
Trade paperbacks	\$13.81	\$13.91	\$14.52
Mass paperbacks	\$7.05	\$7.42	\$7.77

* Estimated

April Is....

School Library Month

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslissues/slm/schoollibrary.cfm>

&

National Poetry Month

<http://www.poets.org/page.php/prmID/41>

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/poetry/index.htm>

&

April 22nd is Earth Day

<http://www.earthday.org/>



CLICK - (Children's Librarians Information and Coffee Klatch) will meet May 6th, 9:30 am Sump Memorial Library, Papillion Please contact Toni Reese if you are coming treese848@gmail.com

We will be talking about ways to use volunteers in your library.



Storytime

The letter "M"

[In 1993 "Story Time Express" was introduced to allow children's librarians to share their programs via the newsletter. After several years it was discontinued but sometimes things are worth bringing back....this is one of them]

***From Tammy Henry, Children's Librarian Assistant, Bellevue Public Library

At the last CLICK Meeting I volunteered to share one of the storytimes I have done recently at the Bellevue Public Library. My storytime for preschoolers focuses on one letter of the alphabet each week. To see a more detailed outline or to view some of my other storytime outlines you may visit my blog at <http://abcstorytimes.blogspot.com>

I am going to share with you one of my favorite letters...M

Flannel Board: Little Mice

1 little mouse, with a nibble and a chew,

Called for a friend...SQUEAK!

And then there were 2.



2 little mice, quick as quick can be,

Called for a friend...SQUEAK! SQUEAK!

And then there were 3.

3 little mice as the scampered 'round the floor,

Called for a friend...SQUEAK! SQUEAK, SQUEAK

And then there were 4.

4 little mice, with another to arrive,

Called for a friend...SQUEAK, SQUEAK, SQUEAK, SQUEAK!

And then there were five.

Book: Martha in the Middle by Jan Fearnley (2008)

Song: 5 little monkeys jumping on the bed

Nursery Rhyme: Little Miss Muffet

Book: Me and My Mom by Alison Ritchie; ill. By Alison Edgson (2009)

M Activity: M&M sort and count.

M&M sort and count is one of my favorite early literacy activities! On a half sheet of paper I made 6 squares and typed in the color words. After I printed them I used the marker to underline the color word with its color. I use the "fun size" packages (which have about 15 candies in them). I give the kids 3 rules when I do this activity:

1. Sort the M&Ms by color
 2. Count the number of M&Ms in each square
 3. Ask the person who brought you today if you may eat them
- To get parents involved instruct them to talk to their child about most, least, etc.*

Eastern Library System Board Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2011 – Bellevue University

Board Members Present: Joyce Neujahr, Lupe Mier, Marie Reidelbach, Gayle Roberts, John Seyfarth, David Privett, Robin Bernstein, Lowen Kruse, Gail Formanack, Rosa Schmidt, Jan Therien, and Scott Berryman. Ex-officio: Kathy Tooker, Nancy Meyer. Guests: Sally Snyder, Nebraska Library Commission; Beth Lighthipe, Bellevue University; and Becky Sims, Offutt Air Force Base Library.

Robin called the meeting to order. Introductions took place and guests were introduced.

Guest Becky Sims presented the group with an overview of the Offutt Air Force Base Library and how the library supports the base mission. Exciting changes are forthcoming as they are centralizing information and using their purchasing power to fulfill base material needs. Ms. Sims encouraged all to use the library as an ILL resource and to contact her with any requests.

Guest Beth Lighthipe reviewed her trip to the ALA Midwinter Conference as an ALA Emerging Leader. She was enthusiastic and explained the Money Smart Week program slated for April 2nd – 9th. Beth was a recipient of an ELS scholarship to attend the conference.

Minutes of the December 10, 2010, meeting were discussed. John Seyfarth moved and Gail Formanack seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's reports for December, 2010, was reviewed and filing of same for audit approved.

Administrator's Report: See written report. Highlights included the upcoming Critical Conversations meeting; a new book kit from a Nebraska Humanities Grant (*The Last Newspaper Boy*) and a report that author Neil Shusterman will be traveling through Nebraska.

Guest Sally Snyder presented an update from the Nebraska Library Commission. A handout was distributed to the members.

Committee reports were given as follows:

Nominating: Gail Formanack announced all candidates are in place for the ballot. Rosa, Gayle and Lowen will run for re-election and Tammy Lorenz, Karlen Memorial Library in Beemer, will run for the Cuming county slot.

Fundraising: Marie Reidelbach reported the calendar sales have done well. There will be raffle baskets at the Annual Meeting and the ESL Garage Sale is slated for the last Saturday in April (30th). A flyer will be circulated asking for donations.

Technology: John Seyfarth announced the spring technology meeting will consist of sessions on Google and Windows 7. Karen Hein will assist. The event will be held at Sump Memorial Library.

Continuing Education: no new report at this time. The committee is considering a book mending workshop.

Advocacy: no new report at this time. The committee will meet after today's session to discuss layout of a new brochure.

There being no Old Business to discuss, New Business was addressed. The date for the next meeting was changed to April 14th at the Wahoo Public Schools.

Kathy Tooker discussed the looming budget issues facing the state at this time. She voiced great concern regarding the future of the ELS but felt our fundraising efforts would save us this year. The NLC budget hearing before the appropriations committee will be on February 22nd in Lincoln.

Robin Bernstein asked if there were any announcements for the Good of the Order. There being no more business before the Board, Marie Reidelbach moved and Rosa Schmidt seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gayle Roberts
Secretary

**Next Board Meeting will be April
14th at the Wahoo Public Schools.
Note: This is a change of date.**

As a Public Library Board Member, Am I Allowed to Work for Pay in the Library? By Richard Miller, Nebraska Library Commission

This article grew out of a series of e-mails back and forth among a library board member, a public librarian, Kathy Tooker (Eastern Library System) and me. Kathy suggested I write an article about the topic since she and I (and I'm sure other regional System Administrators and other Commission staff) have had similar questions posed to them. The question above (used as the title of this article) is not a new one. We have heard it a number of times from library staff, library board members, and from city officials.

Here's the simple answer: NO!

Why not? Well, there are several good reasons:

- It's illegal, according to state statute (depending somewhat on interpretation).
- As keepers of the public trust (appointed by elected officials) library board members cannot afford to be viewed as engaging in "self-dealing" (aka, conflict of interest) that is, doing things that benefit them directly. They are there to represent the community as a whole, and their decisions must be based on that, not on what will result in some benefit, monetary or otherwise, to them or to their relatives.
- It's not good business. We realize libraries are not businesses in the sense of for-profit entities, but there is a good way and a bad way of doing business in libraries, nevertheless. And engaging in library board decisions that will benefit a library board member is a bad way of doing business.

Kathy found a number of resources that address this issue, and I've added one to the list. These are reviewed below:

- Section 51-202 (1) near the end of that subsection states, "No member shall receive any pay or compensation for any services rendered as a member of the board." Now strictly speaking, this statute means that no library board member may be paid for being on the library board. It does allow, however, allow library board members to be reimbursed if they, for example, attend a library-related meeting at the direction of the rest of the board. The statute doesn't strictly address what would happen if a library board member also served as a staff member. (Recent examples we've heard of include one board member who wanted to clean the library for three hours a week and be paid for it. This is not a good idea whether that board member would have been considered a library "staff" member, or a contractor.) In either case, the library board member is receiving some benefit on which she or he has made a decision to pay that benefit – that's the "self-dealing" noted above, and that's forbidden.
- A question came in about whether or not a library board member could work in the library if she or he volunteered. Strictly speaking there is probably nothing wrong with that (although it would be preferable that the community provide enough resources for adequate paid staff for the library). Number 14 of the Essential Level of the Accreditation Guidelines addresses this when it calls for paid staff during open hours: "The library employs paid staff during all scheduled hours that the library is open to the public." It's one thing for library board members to fill in occasionally for paid staff when the librarian is at training, but this should never become a regular occurrence. The library board and community need to think about liability issues when paid staff is not available during public hours.

[continued on next page]

From *The Nebraska Library Board Manual* comes the following:

“What are the legal responsibilities and liabilities of the trustees? The trustee of a public library is a public officer who holds the public trust in regard to the operation of the library. . . . The law imposes high standards. Managing funds is one of the highest legal obligations of a board, particularly when the funds are from taxes. . . . Other duties include obeying the laws governing libraries. . . . and diligence in serving as a trustee.”

Also from the above *Manual*: “How can trustees fulfill their duties in a responsible manner?”

Eliminate any conflicts of interest on a board. A generally accepted rule of thumb is that a trustee or his/her immediate family may not receive any tangible or intangible gain in dealing with the library. In case a relative is a potential recipient of library funds, the affected trustee should abstain from any discussion or vote.”

- And from the Public Library Association, *Ethics Statement for Public Library Trustees*: “Trustees must avoid situations in which personal interests might be served or financial benefits gained at the expense of library users, colleagues or the situation.”

Not only should library board members avoid conflicts of interest, self-dealing, etc., but they should avoid even the “appearance” of such things. Why? Because they are public officers. Because there are always those in a community who are examining what they do very carefully, looking for such things, and just because it’s good business to act ethically and openly. Otherwise you are asking for trouble.

We have all heard the statement that it is difficult, especially in smaller towns, to find people to serve on the library board. This argument does not, however, excuse the library board from fulfilling its duties, in keeping with state law, avoiding conflicts of interest, and upholding the public trust. There is just no other way it should be carrying out its duties.

Richard Miller richard.miller@nebraska.gov 800-307-2665

One Book

The One Book, One Nebraska title for 2011 is Ted Kooser’s “Local Wonders.” Ted Kooser describes with exquisite detail and humor the place he calls home in the rolling hills of southeastern Nebraska—an area known as the Bohemian Alps. Nothing is too big or too small for his attention. Memories of his grandmother’s cooking are juxtaposed with reflections about the old-fashioned out-house on his property. When casting his eye on social progress, Kooser reminds us that the closing of local schools, thoughtless county weed control, and irresponsible housing development destroy more than just the view. In the end, what makes life meaningful for Kooser are the ways in which his neighbors care for one another and how an afternoon walking with an old dog, or baking a pie, or decorating the house for Christmas can summon memories of his Iowa childhood. This writer is a seer in the truest sense of the word, discovering the extraordinary within the ordinary, the deep beneath the shallow, the abiding wisdom in the pithy Bohemian proverbs that are woven into his essays.



One Book for Nebraska Kids has chosen “The Last Newspaper Boy in America” by Sue Corbett for 2011. On the eve of his twelfth birthday, Wil David learns he won’t get to fulfill a longstanding family tradition. Though the Davids have delivered “The Cooper County Caller” to the citizens of Steele for decades, the newspaper announces it is no longer profitable to offer home delivery to the residents of Wil’s small, out-of-the way town. But Wil, third son in a family of limited means, is desperate for the regular wages the route promises, having long dreamed of saving his tips to buy a laptop computer. He starts a petition to convince the newspaper to reverse its decision, and gets to know his quirky neighbors better in the process of galvanizing support.

Wil is hailed as a hero, but the petition drive has taught him that the route means much more to him than simply a way to earn money.

ELS has 13 copies of “Local Wonders” and 10 copies of “The Last Newspaper Boy in America” available for loan for book discussion groups. Go to the ELS webpage—www.elsne.org and download the reservation form.

Going the Extra Mile

The Eastern Library System wants to recognize people in the System who put extra effort in providing quality library service to the residents in their community/area by offering two (2) "Going the Extra Mile Awards" annually. One award will be given to a library employee and one to a volunteer. Nominations may focus on, but are not limited to, the following:

- Customer Service
- Library Promotion
- Advocacy
- Technology Development
- Library Support (time, talents)
- Innovative Programs

Along with the nomination form, include two (2) letter of support and send to:

Eastern Library System
11929 Elm Street, Suite 18
Omaha, NE 68144

Deadline: May 13, 2011

Recipients will be announced at the Eastern Library System Annual Meeting on June 10th at Midland University in Fremont.

Name of Nominee _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Your name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I nominate _____ because: (use additional sheet if necessary)



Sponsored by Eastern Library System, Nebraska Educational Media Association, University of Nebraska at Omaha

School Librarians' Day
March 26, 2011
University of Nebraska @ Omaha, Kayser Hall



8:00-8:25 am *Coffee and Refreshments*

Session I (8:30-9:20)

_____ Policies: Why Schools Need Them - Nancy Larimer, Lincoln Public Schools

Session II (9:30-10:20) Book Reviews

_____ Elementary - Sally Snyder, Nebraska Library Commission

OR

_____ Junior/Senior High School - Paul Christopherson, Omaha Public Library

10:30-10:45 *Break*

Session III(10:50-11:40 am)

_____ Guide to Integrated Library Services - Mary Reiman, Lincoln Public Schools



11:45-12:15 *Lunch*

Session IV (12:20-1:20 pm)

_____ Talk Tables (morning sessions topics) -20-minutes per table

Session V (1:30-2:20 pm)

_____ The Future of Reading - Joy Harvey, Lincoln Public Schools &
Anna Bley, Papillion La Vista South High School

Session V (2:30-3:20pm) Book Reviews

_____ What Can You Do with an iPad? - Sara Churchill, Blair Public Schools

Please Mark the sessions you will be attending

Cost—\$20 (includes lunch). Please register by **March 18th**. Make checks to ELS and mail to:

Eastern Library System
11929 Elm Street, Suite 18
Omaha, NE 68144
402-330-7884
ktooker@windstream.net

Name _____

School _____

Email Address _____

Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Sponsored by Eastern Library System
 Two great workshops all in one day - attend one or both
 LaVista Public Library, 9110 Giles Road
 March 30, 2011

Successful Book Clubs:
 What's the Secret?
 10:00 - 11:30 am



Presenters: Lisa Kelly and Julie Pinnell, both from the Nebraska Library Commission, will give you tips and hints on either starting a book club or perking up an existing one, suggested books to read and where you can get multi copies.

You are welcome to bring a book club member with you as a guest.

First Aid for Books: Mending and Repair
 12:30—3:00 pm

Presenter: Casey Kralik

Casey is a technical services librarian at the Freeman/Lozier Library, Bellevue University. In addition to mending the books at the library she has taught several workshop on book repair. Please bring two or three books that need repair with you to the workshop.



Cost: \$15 each or both for \$25—2 CE credits for each workshop
 Please indicate which workshop(s) you will attend. (lunch is on your own)

_____Morning _____Afternoon

Name _____ Library _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Mail to: Eastern Library System, 11929 Elm Street, Suite 18, Omaha, NE 68144
 or fax registration to: 402-330-1859 **Deadline: March 23**

Eastern Library System

PARKING LOT SALE

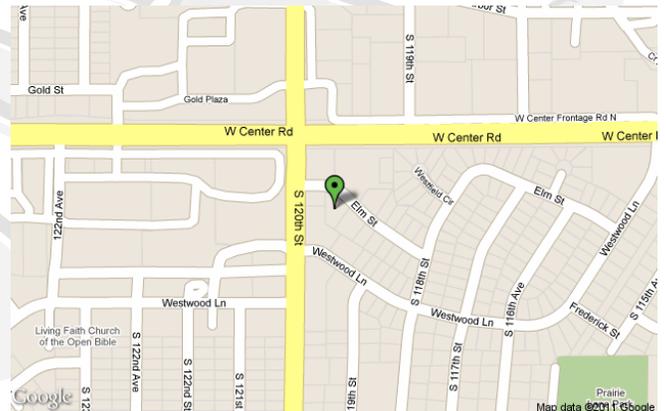
Invite your friends and neighbors

Saturday, April 30th

8am—4 pm

**ELS Office parking lot
11929 Elm Street,
Omaha**

1/2 block South and 1/2 block East of 120th and Center Streets - The building right behind Winchell's Donuts.



Lots of great stuff - don't miss it!



Cash only. Please park in the lot on the south side of Elm Street.

All funds from this sale will go to help provide Eastern Library System's programs and services.

SPRING COLLOQUIUM

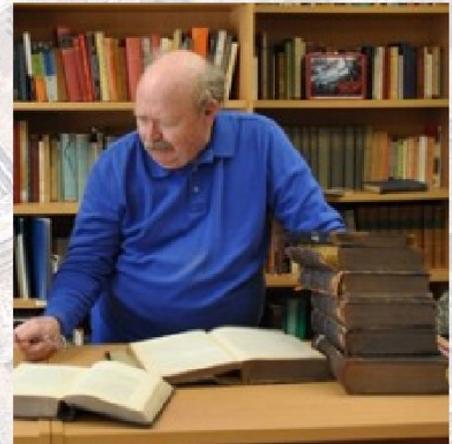
The Price of Change: Are We at Risk of Losing our Heritage?

May 19th
Cornhusker Marriott Hotel
Lincoln, Nebraska
 Yankee Hill Rooms 1 & 2

- 5:30 - 6:30 Social Hour with cash bar
- 6:30 - 7:30 Dinner with your choice of:

Windsor Pork Loin—with cherry rhubarb sauce
Stuffed Orange Roughy— with Brown Bay sauce
Champagne Pasta—with vegetables tossed in light champagne sauce

- 7:30 - 8:30 Presentation by Dr. Fears
- 8:30 - 9:30 Time for questions and discussion



Dr. J. Rufus Fears, the David Ross Boyd Professor of Classics at the University of Oklahoma, is an acclaimed teacher and scholar with 25 awards for teaching excellence. University of Oklahoma students have named him Professor of the Year three times. He regularly appears on national television and radio programs and has written several books. For more information, go to drfears.com

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Organization: _____

Send registration and \$40 by **May 13th** to:

Southeast Library System
 5730 R. St, Ste. C-1
 Lincoln, NE 68505
 Fax: (402)467-6196

Select:

◇ Windsor Pork Loin

◇ Stuffed Orange
 Roughy

◇ Champagne Pasta

This project was supported in part by state aid funding appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature, granted and administered by the Nebraska Library Commission. Partial funding also provided by the Nebraska Library Association and Bellevue University.